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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 NRC-07 OES-09
IO-14 EB-08 SOE-02 DOE-15 CEQ-01 /130 W
----------035467 240945Z /11
O R 210908Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2902
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMCONSUL MADRAS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 11134

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

PARIS FOR UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, MNUC, TECH, IN, PK, US
SUBJECT: PRESS ITEM ON US SUGGESTION FOR INDO-PAK NUCLEAR
TREATY

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF AN ARTICLE BY
SITANSHU DAS, DELHI CORRESPONDENT OF "THE TRIBUNE"
OF CHANDIGARH, WHICH APPEARED IN THE JULY 21 EDITION
OF "THE TRIBUNE."

2. BEGIN QUOTE: U.S.A. SUGGESTS INDO-PAK NUCLEAR
PACT.

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3. A BILATERAL INDO-PAKISTAN TREATY OF NUCLEAR FOR-
BEARANCE HAS BEEN SUGGESTED BY THE U.S.A., IF INDIA
CANNOT ACCEPT ISLAMABAD'S PLANS, FOR A NUCLEAR-FREE
SOUTH ASIA.

4. THE U.S. SUGGESTION WAS BROACHED TO MR. MORARJI
DESAI WHEN HE WAS IN WASHINGON LAST MONTH ON AN

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OFFICIAL VISIT. THE MATTER RECEIVED A FURTHER AIRING WHEN MR. DAVID NEWSOM, U.S. UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE, CAME HERE FOR TALKS ON JULY 12.

5. BRIEFLY, THE U.S. PROPOSAL WILL HAVE INDIA AND PAKISTAN CONCLUDE A TREATY WHEREBY THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL ABJURE FOR ALL TIME THE MANUFACTURE, ACQUISITION, OR PLACING IN THEIR TERRITORIES, OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS REGARDLESS OF OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REGION OR ASIA.

6. 6. A BILATERAL TREATY TO ESCHEW NUCLEAR WEAPONS HAS BEEN PROPOSED BY THE U.S.A. AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO PAKISTAN'S PROPOSAL OF A NUCLEAR-FREE SOUTH ASIA WHICH INDIA HAS REPEATEDLY TURNED DOWN. INDIA REJECTS THE PAKISTANI PROPOSAL ON THE GROUND THAT THE WORLD, NOT MERELY SOUTH ASIA, SHOULBE NUCLEAR-FREE. CHINA SUPPORTS PAKISTAN'S PLAN FOR A NUCLEAR-FREE SOUTH ASIA.

7. IN THE RECENT EXCHANGES THE U.S. LEADERS HAVE PLEADED THAT INDIA OUGHT TO HELP PAKISTAN STABILISE ITS POLITICAL SYSTEM. INTERNAL PROBLEMS HAVE COMBINED WITH THE RECENT CHANGES IN AFGHANISTAN TO AGGRAVATE THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE PAKISTANI POLITICAL ORDER, U.S. OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD INDIA.

8. THOUGH IT IS POSSIBLE TO EXAGGERATE DIFFICULTIES
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WHICH ATTRACT INTERNATIONAL SYMPATHY AND ASSISTANCE. THEU.S. SIDE BELIEVES THAT PAKISTAN'S PRESENT DIFFICULTIES ARE TOO SERIOUS TO BE EXAGGERATED.

9. AT A TIME LIKE THIS AN INDIAN GESTURE IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD, THE U.S. OFFICIALS HAVE ARGUED, WOULD LIFT THE BURDEN OF FEAR INPAKISTAN AND THEREBY STRENGTHEN ITS POLITICAL ORDER. THE U.S.A. HAS OP-POSED THE ACQUISITION BY ISLAMABAD OF A FRANCE-MADE NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT. THE U.S. SIDE HAS AS-SURED INDIAN OFFICIALS THAT THE FRENCH-PAKISTAN DEAL FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES IS "OFF/ THOUGH NEITHER FRENCH NOR PAKISTAN MIGHT CONFIRM THIS.

10. NO COMMITMENT

11. GIVEN THIS SITUATION, IT IS ABOUT TIME, THE U.S.A. FEELS, THAT INDIA MADE A GESTURE TO RESPECT PAKISTAN'S FEARS ABOUT INDIA'S NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES AND FUTURE PLANS. THE INDIANSIDE, PREOCCUPIED WITH THE PROBLEM OF SECURING A REGULAR SUPPLY OF ENRICHED URANIUM FOR THE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT AT TARAPUR, NOTED THE U.S.

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SUGGESTION WITHOUT COMMITTING ITSELF FOR OR AGAINST THE NEW PROPOSAL.

12. THOUGH THE U.S.A. HAS BEEN PRESSING INDIA TO ABJURE PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPOLOSIONS AND MR. DESAI HAS ASSURED THE U.S. CONGRESS THAT INDIA WILL NOT EXPLODE ANY NUCLEAR DEVICE, THE TREATY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS INLATIN AMERICA, CONCLUDED WITH U.S. SUPPORT ON FEBRUARY 14, 1967,UNDER ARTICLE 18, ALLOWS "EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES" BY THE CONTRACTING PARTIES UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

13. THAT TREATY MAKES A DISTINCTION BETWEEN "NUCLEAR WEAPONS" AND "NUCLEAR DEVICES FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES"
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--THE DISTINCTION DERIVING FROM THE INTENTIONS OF THE PARTIES EXPLODING A DEVICE. END TEXT.

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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SAS ID: 1920117
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS ITEM ON US SUGGESTION FOR INDO-PAK NUCLEAR TREATY
TAGS: PFOR, MNUC, TECH, IN, PK, US
To: STATE PARIS
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/35ab8a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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